Leveraged Finance Industry to Gather at Sixth Annual Melanoma Benefit

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Event Set for May 24 at New York City's Rockefeller Center: The Summer Garden

New York, NY, May 1, 2017 – The leveraged finance community will gather for the sixth annual Leveraged Finance Fights Melanoma (LFFM) benefit and cocktail party to raise funds for the Melanoma Research Alliance (MRA), the largest private funder of melanoma research. Melanoma is the deadliest form of skin cancer, and MRA is dedicated to fighting, treating, and curing melanoma.

The event will be held from 6:00-9:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 24, at the Summer Garden at Rockefeller Center. It will be chaired by Brendan Dillon of UBS; Lee Grinberg of Elliott Management; George Mueller and Cade Thompson of KKR; Jeff Rowbottom of PSP Investments; and Trevor Watt of Hellman & Friedman.

LFFM is a premier gathering of professionals from the leveraged finance, private equity, and investment communities who come together to fight melanoma. Previous years' events have featured some of the most prominent names in the financial industry, including Carl Icahn, Michael Milken, Leon Black, Henry Kravis and Howard Marks.

Over 1,000 leaders from throughout the industry, including dealmakers from banks, investment firms, law firms, issuers and sponsors are expected to attend.

Since the inaugural event in 2012, LFFM has raised over $6.8 million to support MRA's global research programs, working toward eliminating suffering and death from melanoma. Tickets are $300 and may be purchased by visiting www.curemelanoma.org/LFFM.

The event seeks to raise funds to advance research and educate attendees on the dangers of melanoma and the importance of sun safety and early detection. If melanoma is found early— before it has spread beyond the skin—it is almost always treatable. Past events have led to attendees scheduling skin checks and even to the discovery and treatment of several early-stage melanomas.

Recent landmark advances in melanoma treatments have provided new options for patients, and melanoma stands as the case study for state-of-the-art cancer drug development, precision medicine and immunotherapy. The data that melanoma scientists are generating is also benefiting cancer researchers in many fields, including those studying bladder, brain, breast, colon, kidney, leukemia, lymphoma, lung, pancreatic, and prostate cancer.

Over 87,000 Americans are expected to be diagnosed with melanoma in 2017, and incidence of the disease continues to rise. Melanoma is one of the most common cancers in young adults — especially young women. Thanks to research funded by MRA, the treatment outlook for the disease has improved in recent years, yet further advances are needed to fully eliminate suffering and death related to melanoma.

About The Melanoma Research Alliance (MRA)

MRA is a public charity formed in 2007 under the auspices of the Milken Institute, with the generous founding support of Debra and Leon Black. MRA to date has dedicated more than $88 million to research seeking to better prevent, diagnose, and treat melanoma. Due to the ongoing support of its founders, 100% of every dollar MRA raises goes directly to funding melanoma research. The organization is poised to build on recent momentum in the field, accelerating the pace of scientific discovery and translation in order to eliminate suffering and death due to melanoma. MRA's ability to fund wide-ranging research in melanoma is amplified by unique multi-faceted collaborations with individuals, private foundations and corporations.

For more information on MRA, visit www.CureMelanoma.org.

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